

In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims, with deletions shown by strikethrough or surrounded by double brackets and additions shown by underlining:

Listing of the Claims

1-124 (cancelled).

125. (New) A method for transmitting video programming from at least one video programming source to at least one customer, comprising the steps of:

transmitting, to at least one customer set top terminal, video programming data from the at least one video programming source;

collecting feedback data from the at least one customer set top terminal, the feedback data indicating at least the video programming selected by the at least one customer through the at least one customer set top terminal during a predetermined time interval for viewing during the predetermined time interval;

selecting a subset of available video programs, comprising:

accessing a plurality of content profiles, each content profile indicative of characteristics of content of a respective one of the plurality of video programs, and

applying the feedback data to each individual content profile; and

controlling a switch connecting the at least one video programming source to respective nodes in a video distribution system so as to selectively transmit the selected subset of video programs to the at least one customer.

126. (New) The method of claim 125, further comprising:

updating at least one customer profile of the at least one customer based on the feedback data, the at least one customer profile indicating preferences of the at least one customer for particular characteristics of content,

wherein the step of applying comprises comparing the feedback data to the at least one customer profile.

127. (New) The method of claim 126, wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting the subset of available video programs having content profiles that most closely match the at least one customer profile.

128. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the step of accessing comprises accessing a content profile indicating a degree to which content of a video program has the characteristics, and

wherein the step of applying comprises applying the feedback data to the content profile indicating a degree to which content of a video program has the characteristics.

129. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the step of accessing comprises accessing a content profile indicating whether content a video program has one or more of the particular characteristics, and

wherein the step of applying comprises applying the feedback data to the content profile indicating whether content a video program has one or more of the particular characteristics.

130. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the step of accessing comprises accessing a content profile expressed in mathematical terms; and

wherein the step of applying comprises applying the feedback data to the content profile expressed in mathematical terms.

131. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the step of controlling comprises scheduling the transmission of the selected subset of available video programs to the at least one customer.

132. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the steps of transmitting, collecting, selecting and controlling are performed by a head-end of a cable television network.

133. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein at least one node is connected to transmit the selected subset of video programs to a plurality of the at least one set-top terminal.

controlling a switch connecting the at least one video programming source to respective nodes in a video distribution system so as to selectively transmit the selected subset of video programs to the at least one customer.

134. (New) In a video transmission network comprising a plurality of customer set top terminals, each customer set top terminal operative to receive video programming data, and a video distribution system comprising a switch for selectively transmitting video programs from a plurality of video program sources to respective nodes, and means for transmitting video programs from the respective nodes to corresponding customer set top terminals, a system comprising:

means for collecting feedback data from at least one of the plurality of customer set top terminals, the feedback data indicating at least video programming selected by at least one customer through the at least one customer set top terminal during a predetermined time interval for viewing during the predetermined time interval; and

a system controller responsive to the collecting means for controlling the switch so as to schedule the presentation of a subset of available video programs to the at least one customer through the video distribution system in response to the feedback data,

wherein the system controller is operative to select the subset of available video programs, comprising accessing a plurality of content profiles, each content profile indicative of characteristics of content of a respective one of the plurality of available video programs, and applying the feedback data to each individual content profile.

135. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is operative to update at least one customer profile of the at least one customer based on the feedback data, the at least one customer profile indicating preferences of the at least one customer for particular characteristics of content, and to compare the feedback data to the at least one customer profile.

136. (New) The system of claim 135, wherein the system controller is operative to select the subset of available video programs having content profiles that most closely match the at least one customer profile.

137. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is operative to access a content profile indicating a degree to which content of a video program has the characteristics, and to apply the feedback data to the content profile indicating a degree to which content of a video program has the characteristics.

138. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is operative to access a content profile indicating whether content a video program has one or more of the particular characteristics, and to apply the feedback data to the content profile indicating whether content a video program has one or more of the particular characteristics.

139. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is operative to access a content profile expressed in mathematical terms, and to apply the feedback data to the content profile expressed in mathematical terms.

140. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is operative to schedule the transmission of the selected subset of available video programs to the at least one customer.

141. (New) The system of claim 134, wherein the system controller is part of a head-end of a cable television network.